

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Greenville, NC  
Police Department



# **mission statement**

The Greenville Police Department  
exists to enhance public safety  
and quality of life, in partnership  
with all people in our community,  
by preventing crime with honor  
and integrity.

# CRIME AND CRASH STATS

**Part 1 Crime Comparison YTD 2019**

Offense	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	5 Year Avg	2019	18-19% Change	5 Yr Avg %Change
Homicide	4	7	6	4	5	5	4	-20%	-20%
Rape	13	37	16	21	26	23	20	-23%	-13%
Robbery	144	138	153	154	109	136	92	-16%	-32%
Ag Assault	312	328	322	420	327	350	320	-2%	-9%
<i>Violent Crime</i>	473	510	497	599	467	514	436	-7%	-15%
Burglary	800	740	870	724	475	677	411	-13%	-39%
Larceny	2772	2480	2728	2566	2121	2452	2311	9%	-6%
Auto Larceny	114	88	110	104	111	106	113	Up 2	7%
<i>Property Crime</i>	3686	3308	3708	3394	2707	3236	2835	5%	-12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4159</b>	<b>3818</b>	<b>4205</b>	<b>3993</b>	<b>3174</b>	<b>3750</b>	<b>3271</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>-13%</b>

**Crash Comparisons - E-Crash State Submissions**

	2018			2019			Percent of Change		
Month	Rpt	Non	Both	Rpt	Non	Both	Rpt	Non	Both
January	409	32	441	352	28	380	-14%	-13%	-14%
February	371	41	412	326	33	359	-12%	-20%	-13%
March	400	30	430	366	37	403	-9%	23%	-6%
April	396	32	428	309	27	336	-22%	-16%	-21%
May	386	35	421	336	31	367	-13%	-11%	-13%
June	328	37	365	315	32	347	-4%	-14%	-5%
July	318	22	340	257	32	289	-19%	45%	-15%
August	407	33	440	354	37	391	-13%	12%	-11%
September	376	41	417	348	51	399	-7%	24%	-4%
October	450	41	491	375	33	408	-17%	-20%	-17%
November	439	44	483	397	32	429	-10%	-27%	-11%
December	366	36	402	357	40	397	-2%	11%	-1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4646</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>5070</b>	<b>4092</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>4505</b>	<b>-12%</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>-11%</b>

# INTERNAL AFFAIRS

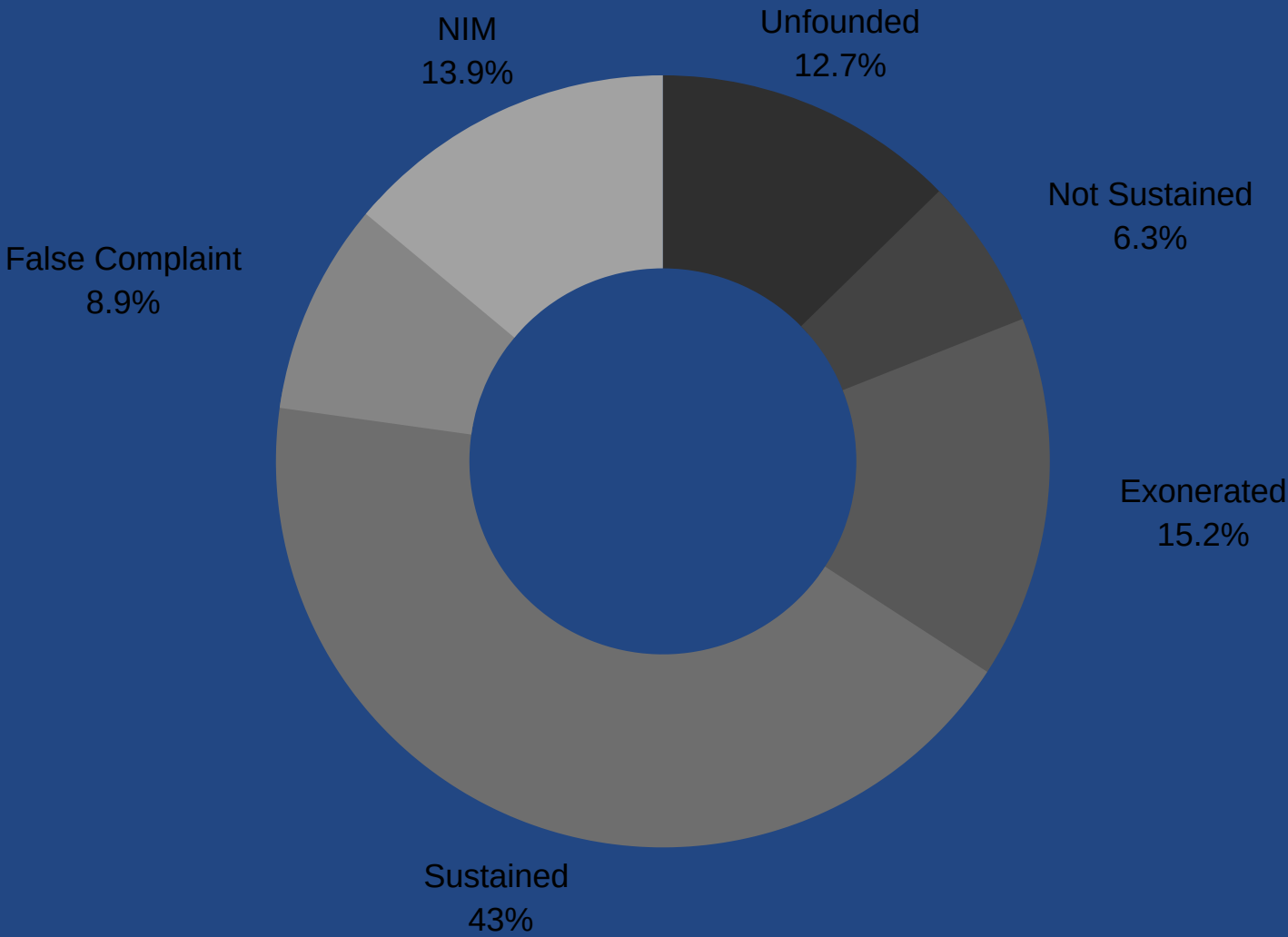
The Greenville Police Department promptly and thoroughly investigates all allegations of misconduct by its members. All internal investigations are conducted fairly and impartially. A single internal investigation may involve more than one complainant, more than one alleged violation of departmental rules, regulations, policies, directives or procedures, and more than one employee of the police department. During the 2019 calendar year, a violation of policy could be categorized into one of two types of investigations: A Non-Investigative Matter (NIM) or an Internal Affairs Investigation. All types of complaints and/or investigations were documented and tracked into the IA Trak, the Department's current tracking system, utilized by the Office of Internal Affairs.

In 2019, a total of thirty-one (31) Internal Affairs Investigations were conducted. There were eleven (11) cases where a Non-Investigative Matter or NIM was used by a supervisor to document minor policy violations that were not at a progressive level for the employee. The combined Internal Affairs Investigations and NIM's, covered a total of 79 alleged policy violations. A NIM results in a non-disciplinary disposition and is only available under limited circumstances as determined by the Office of Internal Affairs on a case-by-case basis according to written policy. NIMS are given a number through IA Trak and maintained in the Office of Internal Affairs. All Internal Affairs Investigations that do not result in a NIM are conducted with one of the following findings:

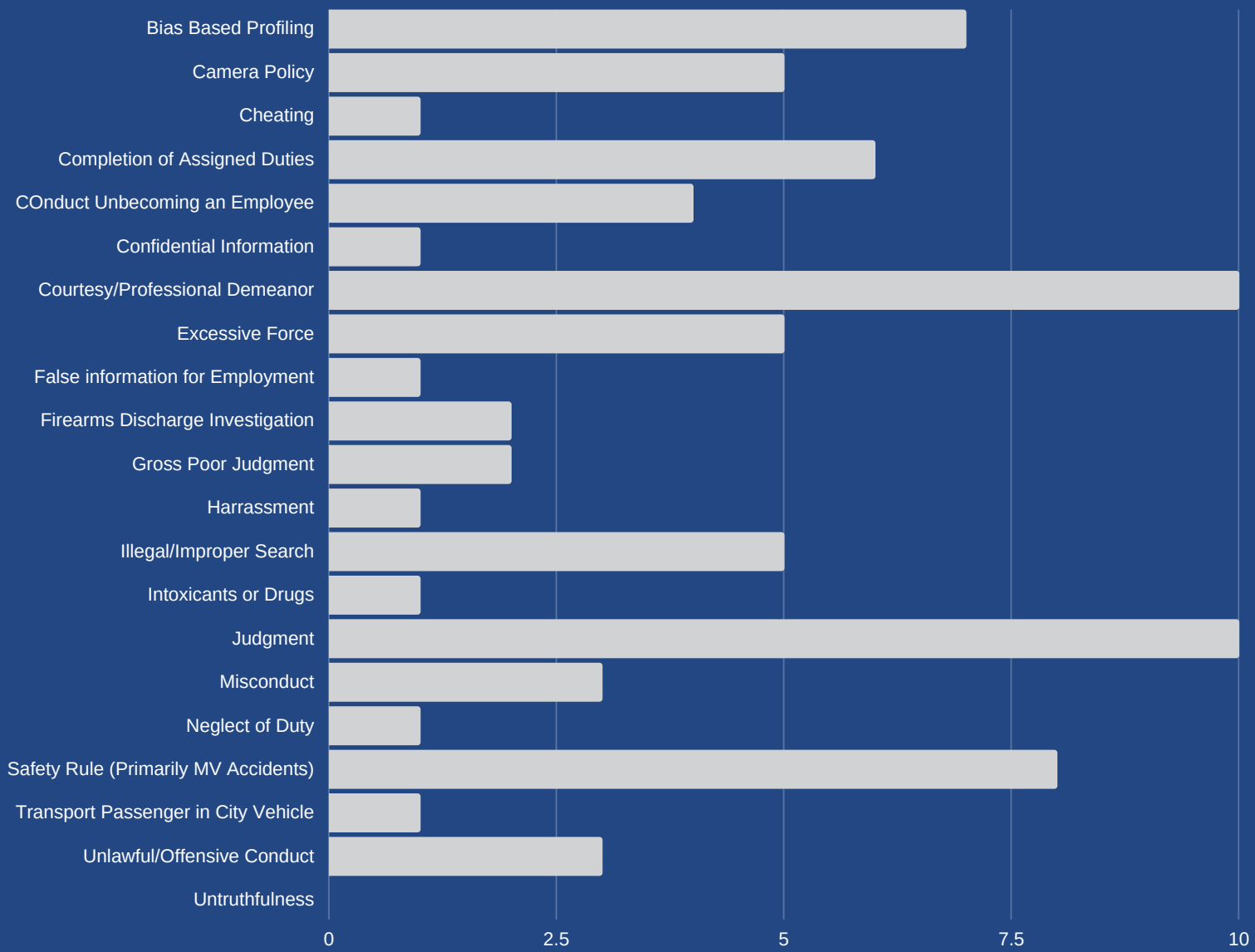
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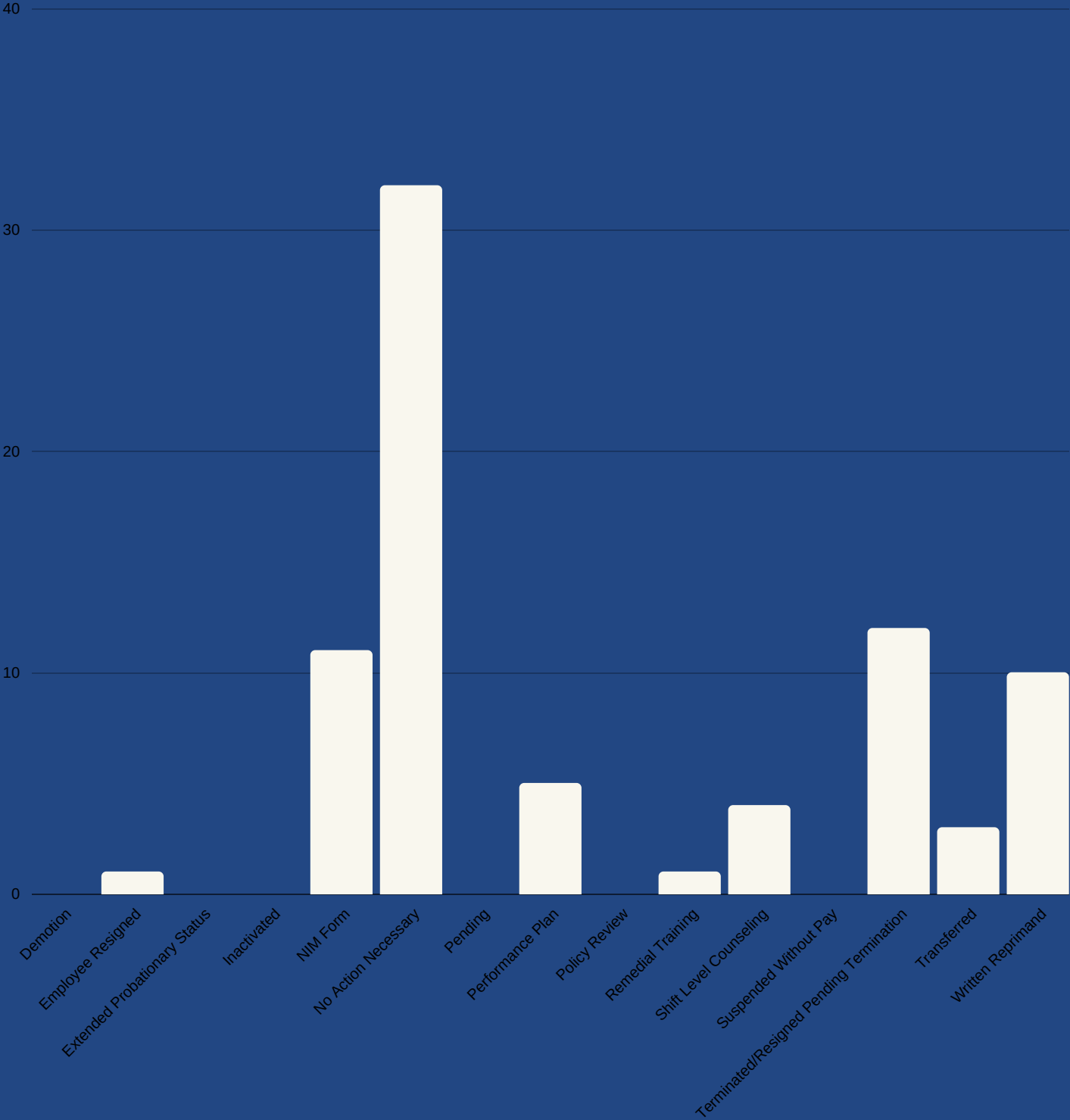
# INTERNAL AFFAIRS OVERVIEW



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# INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Greenville Police Department has seen a significant reduction in Internal Affairs complaints over the past three years. The Office of Internal Affairs received twenty-one (21) external complaints in 2019. While this is only a slight decrease from the twenty-two (22) external complaints filed in 2018, the drop in the number of internal complaints is noteworthy. We received twenty-two (22) internal complaints in 2018. In 2019, we had only 12 internal complaints; a decrease of 45%. This is unusual since the number of internal complaints has historically been higher than the complaints received from outside of the agency.

There was a small increase in the number of NIM dispositions for a safety violation in 2019 from the previous year. These NIM's are the result of an employee being involved in a preventable motor vehicle collision. There were five (5) such violations in 2018 and a total of eight (8) NIM's due to collisions in 2019.

The City of Greenville has a population of over 90,000 people. This does not include the number of students who attend East Carolina University and Pitt Community College. With the continued growth of the City of Greenville and the Greenville Police Department, we can see the increase in law enforcement activity with these numbers:

## **2019 Reported Numbers**

- 82,205 Calls for Service
- 19,004 Traffic Stops
- 48,714 Officer Initiated Contacts

Combined, this totals 149,923 contacts with the public in 2019. Officers made 2,194 arrests of individuals in 2019. Based on those numbers, the citizens of Greenville filed a complaint only 0.01% of the time following their contacts with members of the Greenville Police Department.

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# GUN VIOLENCE DOWN ACROSS THE CITY

By Tyler Stocks, The Daily Reflector

Fourteen fewer people were injured by gunfire in 2019 than in 2018, the Greenville Police Department announced, attributing part of the decline to an acoustic gunshot surveillance system.

During a news conference at department headquarters on South Greene Street, officials praised ShotSpotter, which uses sensors, algorithms and artificial intelligence to detect, locate and alert police to gunfire.

The Greenville City Council unanimously approved a three-year, \$615,000 contract with the ShotSpotter company in October.

“We’ve been working hard for a couple of years to bring a project called ShotSpotter, which helps police officers detect gunfire and respond quickly to scenes where that gunfire is taking place,” Greenville Police Chief Mark Holtzman said.

“We’re really trying to address recurring gunfire that’s taking place in our community and also the injuries that go along with that gunfire,” he said.

Overall gun violence injuries are down 33 percent between 2018 and 2019 according to data provided by the department.

“Our goal will be now to push past that flagpost and see where we can take this project and how safe we can make this community,” Holtzman said.



# SHOTSPOTTER (CONT.)



In addition to seeing an overall reduction in gun violence, the police department reported that homicides, rapes, robberies and aggravated assaults, which accounted for 467 violent crime incidents in 2018, decreased to 436 incidents in 2019.

Property crimes increased between 2018 and 2019 from 2,707 to 2,835 incidents. Property crimes include larcenies, auto larcenies and burglary.

The department reported a 29 percent decrease in gunshot injury victims who live in areas covered by ShotSpotter and a 38 percent reduction in the number of gunshot injury victims outside of the ShotSpotter coverage zone.

The gunfire detection system is deployed in a 3.6-square-mile area that includes East Carolina University's main campus in the east to Moyewood in the west, Arlington Boulevard and Millbrook Street in the south and the Tar River on the north.

While the data looks promising, Holtzman highlighted the importance of police officers and members of the community working together.

"It's not all technology alone and we'll never just hang our hat on that," he said. "This really comes together through the partnerships."





“It’s where the technology meets the police car; it’s where the technology meets the police officers on the street, giving them that quick information to go to the scene,” Holtzman said. “The community is now talking to us because the officers are stopping. We’re getting out of the car, we’re conducting that search, we’re collecting that shell casing and the community sees that we actually care.

We’re really in this to stop the gun violence,” he said. ShotSpotter also is saving lives, officials said.

“This is an exemplary injury prevention story,” Dr. Eric Toschlog said. Toschlog serves as a professor of surgical critical care at East Carolina University’s Brody School of Medicine and also works as the chief of trauma at Vidant Medical Center.

With ShotSpotter, police respond more rapidly and the patient is transported more rapidly to the hospital by EMS providers who arrive sooner, he said. Those seconds count.

“Bleeding is stopped sooner and certainly that’s going to impact the survivability of a gunshot victim,” Toschlog said. “If we were pre-Shotspotter era, we would have more gunshots, less gunshots reported, a longer response time to the scene and that would translate into longer pre-hospital transports times to the medical center.





“That would mean increased bleeding, increased time to stop the bleeding at the trauma center and it would no doubt correlate with death,” he said. “What this means to me that is just absolutely outstanding is that we’ve seen 14 people not come to the trauma center and bleed to death due to this technology.”

With the success of ShotSpotter, people in public housing projects typically plagued by gun violence are not hearing gunshots every night.

“It’s been very positive in terms of the feedback that we’ve been able to receive from residents,” Wayman Williams, executive director of the Greenville Housing Authority said.

Williams emphasized that the quality of life for residents who live in neighborhoods like Moyewood and Kearney Park are improving thanks to ShotSpotter.

Data shows that between 2016-19 violent crimes in Moyewood have decreased 40 percent and property crimes have decreased 67 percent.

“There’s always negativity associated with how people perceive certain communities or certain public housing communities,” Williams said.

Holtzman said he wants to continue changing neighborhoods for the better.

“It can be done,” he said. “You got to have a vision for it, you’ve got to be fully invested in it and this is a step towards changing the reputation of those neighborhoods.”





# HONORING A FALLEN HERO

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Meet K-9 Sneak.

Sneak isn't your ordinary dog – after all, he is named after an extraordinary man, who was dearly loved by many of us here at the Greenville Police Department.

Eight years ago today, Nash County Deputy/U.S. Marshal's Service Task Force Officer Warren "Sneak" Lewis III was killed in the line of duty. Lewis and his partner, Greenville Police Sergeant Tim McInernery, along with other Eastern North Carolina Fugitive Task Force officers, went to a residence in Kinston to serve a warrant in connection with a murder investigation. The officers were conducting a search of the residence when Lewis was shot and killed.





"On June 9, 2011 we lost an incredible father, husband, son and brother in blue," said McNerney.

As fate would have it, a young Kinston police officer, William Groseclose, was on scene the day Lewis died.

"It's a day I will never forget," said Groseclose.

Groseclose would later become a K-9 handler for the Greenville Police Department. With the recent retirement of longtime lead K-9 handler, Tim McLaughlin, and his dog, Bono Jr., the Greenville Police Department was in the position to purchase a new dog.

A one-year-old, 90-pound German Shepherd from Hungary became the latest addition to the Greenville Police Department's K-9 Unit. The only thing left to do: select a name.

For Groseclose, the decision was a no-brainer.

"When I became a K-9 officer and had the opportunity to get a new dog, I knew I wanted to name him in honor of Sneak," he said.

"I feel that my fallen partner would have been honored to see a police K-9 named after him," said McNerney.

"He would view this dog as a symbol of redemption, healing and resolution and would be so proud to know his name carries on to help find and apprehend criminals that endanger our community."

Big paws...bigger shoes to fill...as the legacy of a local hero carries on.

"I am very grateful to be able to honor Sneak in this way," said Groseclose.

"I can see no stronger partner to carry on his name," said McNerney.

"They share the same characteristics: brave, loyal, loving and a natural guardian."





## ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

It's not every day you meet an officer like Misty Edwards.

When the Greenville Noon Rotary Club asked us for a nomination for the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Award -- Officer Edwards became the obvious choice.

The recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow Award must exhibit good character, integrity, and leadership. They must have a service mindset and dedication to their community and fellow citizens. Officer Edwards exhibits these characteristics and more. The level of care and compassion she displays to those she meets is unmatched -- both on and off duty.

Here are just a few of the many reasons she deserved this award.

Officer Edwards spends time and effort with a family that is adopting triplet sisters in order to help with the transition. She provides companionship, advice, and counsel to them.

She also helps tend to an elderly female she met during a call for service. Officer Edwards regularly assists the woman during her time off by providing meals, personal hygiene care, and house cleaning.

Recently, Officer Edwards used her discretion in a shoplifting case. Instead of charging a new mother for stealing newborn clothes and formula, she paid for the items out of pocket and kept the mother from being separated from her newborn who was in the NICU at Vidant.

Officer Edwards does not readily share her efforts to help others. She keeps her good deeds to herself. If it was not for her Sergeant, we probably would never have known about her kind efforts. As Sergeant Bonner so eloquently said, "she is a shining example of what good character, compassion, hard work ethics, and love of her fellow person can do."

# SPECIAL RECOGNITION

## MAJOR BOWEN GRADUATES FROM FBI ACADEMY

Major Bowen is the latest GPD graduate of the FBI National Academy.

As an FBI National Academy graduate, he enters into a select group made up of less than one percent of the country's law enforcement officers.

Bowen was handpicked by GPD and, along with other officers from across the country, completed the 10-week course at the FBI training facility in Quantico, Virginia. The course included instruction in law, behavioral science, forensic science, understanding terrorism/terrorist mindsets, leadership development, communication, and health/fitness.

## OFFICER LATHER RECIEVES INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR HONORS

Congratulations to Officer Lather! He was named "Instructor of the Year" at a special appreciation ceremony. Lather was selected for the honor by a group of his peers. We are proud to have an excellent group of instructors and appreciate all you do!





# TRAFFIC SAFETY TASK FORCE

The Greenville Traffic Safety Task Force is honored to accept the 2019 Collaboration Award from the Governors Highway Safety Program.

The award recognizes the collaborative accomplishments and strategies the task force has implemented over the past year in an effort to decrease the number of crashes in Greenville.

The key partners on the task force are GPD, Greenville, NC Public Works, Vidant Medical Center, Vidant PD, Vidant Injury Prevention, East Carolina University Police Department, and the NCDOT.



## NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

We are so grateful to all of you for helping us raise more than \$5,000 for Vidant Health Foundation during #NoShaveNovember.

For a second year in a row, officers were permitted to sport a beard in uniform, while raising money for cancer awareness.

A special thank you to The Shave on Fifth, Blackbeard Coffee Roasters, Villa Verde, and Japan Inn for sponsoring the contest and supporting our officers in their endeavors!

